

Okinawa MARINE

Marines test their skills of patrolling, avoiding traps and negotiating obstacles at the Republic of Korea Individual Movement Course. See story and photos pages 10-11.



May 4, 2001

Camp Smedley D. Butler, Okinawa, Japan

www.okinawa.usmc.mil

INSIDE

NEWS

TMO provides some helpful tips for moving

Marines from the Traffic Management Office give personnel a few helpful hints about what to do and what not to do in order to avoid some common mistakes during the busy summer moving months.

see page 5 for more

NEWS

Eighth grader speaks out about local road safety

Local Lester Middle School eighth grader wields the power of the written word to heighten commanding general's awareness of neighborhood safety concerns surrounding Camp Lester's housing area.

see page 7 for more

FEATURE

ANZAC Day celebration honors past war veterans

U.S. service members participating in Exercise Tandem Thrust 01 are given a chance to salute and thank Australian military personnel for their support by participating in ANZAC Day parade.

see page 10-11 for more

SPORTS

One man leads crusade to start volleyball revival

James M. Maldonado tells his story of how he began his passion for volleyball while in the Air Force and how he hopes to bring back volleyball to its former grandeur with the help of fellow enthusiasts.

see page 16 for more

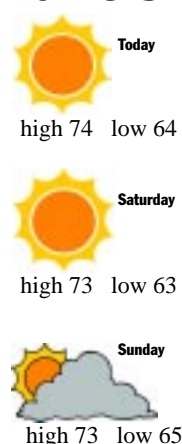
LEISURE

East meets West at Chatan Town's American Village

American Village in Chatan Town depicts the Okinawan's vision of what an American-style shopping district is like by including a mall, supermarket, theatre and more with an Okinawan twist.

see page 17 for more

FORECAST



INDEX

News	3
News	5
News	7
Briefs/Opinion	8-9
Feature	10-11
Feature	12
Feature	13
Community	14
Sports	16
Leisure	17
Marketplace	18

31st MEU goes "Down Under"

GYSGT MARLON J. MARTIN
31ST MEU PUBLIC AFFAIRS CHIEF

WHITE BEACH — Marines and Sailors assigned to the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) left here April 26 for a six-week deployment to Queensland, Australia, for combined arms training during Exercise Tandem Thrust 01.

The 2,000 MEU Marines and Sailors loaded their cargo and boarded three ships for the trip to Australia. The ships are part of what's called an Amphibious Ready Group or ARG.

The ARG is comprised of the *USS Essex*, *USS Juneau* and *USS Germantown*.

Tandem Thrust is a bilateral exercise. The evolution consists of a U.S. and Australian combined and joint command post and field exercise that includes air, land, maritime and special operations forces. The bi-annual event will be conducted at Shoalwater Bay Training Area.

The purpose of the exercise is to train a combined U.S. military and Australian Defense Force staff in crisis action planning for the execution of contingency operations.

During the exercise, the MEU will link up with the Australian Defense Force's



USMC PHOTO

31st MEU (SOC) Marines and Sailors aboard the *USS Essex* begin their six-week deployment to Australia to participate in combined arms training during Exercise Tandem Thrust 01.

3d Brigade to conduct event-driven joint and combined maneuver training. The joint training also provides the opportunity for both forces to redefine the procedures of combined operations.

The two will engage in various aspects of field training. This will include a combined amphibious landing, force-on-force training ashore, two live-fire weapons shoots, aviation training and an airborne airfield seizure.

The MEU is supporting Tandem

Thrust 01 with Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron-265; Battalion Landing Team, 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment; and 31st MEU Service Support Group.

More than 18,000 personnel are participating in Tandem Thrust. The U.S. is supporting the exercise with more than 14,000. Australia is providing more than 4,200, while Canada will support with approximately 700 Sailors and 50 airmen.

Marines, Sailors set sail for LF CARAT 2001 exercises

LF CARAT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

ABOARD THE USS RUSHMORE — The seventh annual Landing Force Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training exercise set sail from White Beach with approximately 400 Marines May 1.

As part of a series of bilateral training exercises between the U.S. and six Southeast Asian countries, Marines and Sailors will train with the military forces of Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, the Philippines and Brunei.

LF CARAT 2001 demonstrates U.S. commitment in Southeast Asia while increasing operational readiness and capabilities of U.S. forces. This exercise also promotes cooperation with other countries, which is mutually beneficial and continues to build lasting working relationships, adding to the security and peace in the region.

"Our professional and social interactions with foreign counterparts engenders a close working relationship and atmosphere of cooperation which leads to better understanding of the mutual needs and requirements of our respective countries," said Navy Capt Gary Erickson, Commander, Destroyer Squadron 1. Capt Erickson leads the U.S. ships, crews and Marines as this year's LF CARAT commodore.

The Marines assigned to LF CARAT, commanded by LtCol Richard C. Adams, are from units on Okinawa, Japan, and Hawaii.

Marines and Sailors assigned to the Command Element, Ground Combat Element and Combat Service Support Element recently returned from a three-day field exercise to prepare them for the deployment.

"The field exercise showed us our strengths and pointed out deficiencies that we can remedy before we get on

ship," said GySgt Benjamin D. Leake, Force Protection Specialist and LF CARAT Company Gunnery Sergeant from Marine Wing Support Squadron-172, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing.

Throughout their deployment, members of LF CARAT are also scheduled to give back to the host country citizens through many varied community relations projects.

Experiencing the culture and history of the Southeast Asian people that LF CARAT plans to visit is also of value.

"Accomplishing the mission safely is the primary focus of this deployment," LtCol Adams said. "However, with that, I expect the Marines and Sailors to experience the rich customs, traditions and history of the people with which they will interact. We are looking forward to these interactions and the new friendships and mutual respect that we will surely experience on LF CARAT 2001."

Report traffic violations at 645-7441/7442

Artillery Marines return from Fuji

GYSGT MATT HEVEZI
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP HANSEN — The remaining 115 Marines from Battery S, 5th Battalion, 10th Marine Regiment returned here April 21 after spending three months training at Camp Fuji, Japan. The Marines began their redeployment to Okinawa April 15.

The Btry S Marines are attached to the 3d Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment while in Japan as part of the Unit Deployment Program. They left their home base at Camp Lejeune, N.C., to participate in the UDP and arrived on Okinawa Dec. 6.

While at Camp Fuji, the Marines practiced their gunnery skills.

"We did different types of shoots over there," said 1stSgt Leland W. Hatfield, First Sergeant, Btry S. "It was a nice thing to get over there and shoot some artillery after being here on Okinawa for two months."

"The gunnery skills are perishable," said Btry S Commander, Capt Leland W. Suttie. "That's the value of getting out there and [practicing] every week."

Artillery units must travel away from Okinawa to fire their howitzers. There are no ranges open for artillery fire on Okinawa.

The Marines arrived at Camp Fuji in February and some of the training they participated in involved infantry units that were also training under the UDP.

"We did two combined arms operations over there," 1stSgt Hatfield said. "One was with 3d Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment and another was with 2d Battalion, 3d Marine Regiment."

The artillerymen worked closely with the infantry Marines who were also practicing their combat skills.

"The company commanders would call in artillery fire as if they were actually moving in the battlefield," 1stSgt Hatfield said. "They get the experience calling for fire."

During such training, 1stSgt Hatfield said many of his junior Marines, especially some of the corporals who were serving in senior positions as gun section chiefs, also got valuable experience.

"We have a lot of young Marines running our gun sections; they are mostly corporals," 1stSgt Hatfield said. "Many are first-term Marines and they are good. It is good to see them out there running the gun sections."

Cpl Ronald Crum, a 20-year-old Assistant Section Chief with Btry S, said he plans on reenlisting and the skills he learned on the deployment will help him in the future.

"Before Fuji, I had not been to many field [exercises]," he said. "Mainly I was there to learn because I'm trying to get section chief qualified."

"It takes a lot of responsibility to run a gun section," 1stSgt Hatfield said. "I would have no hesitation taking them out to do the real thing. I'd take them to war tomorrow."

1stSgt Hatfield, who has an infantry background and joined Btry S as the unit's first sergeant last May, said being with an artillery unit has been a great experience because it has given him a new appreciation for how the artillerymen operate while deployed.

"They spend a lot of time in the field," 1stSgt Hatfield said. "We were out there in the snow and the rain. The first week, the temperature was 3 degrees."

"I'm glad I came to Japan," said Pvt Danito Clarke, Artilleryman, Btry S. "The training was good because the harsh weather brought us together as a battery."

The Btry S Marines are scheduled to return to North Carolina sometime in June.



LCPL JOSH P. VIERELA

NMCRS donation

BGen Willie J. Williams, Commanding General, Marine Corps Base, presents Sharon Gima, Director, Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society, Okinawa, a check for the \$280,490 raised this year. The general presented the check before the final drawing April 28 in front of the Camp Foster Base Theater. Organizers raffled off 18 prizes this year, but it was Capt Reginald L. Hairston, Base Adjutant, Marine Corps Base, who walked away with this year's grand prize, a 2001 Ford Escape. The Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society will use the money to assist Marines, Sailors and their families in times of emergency and need.

Furniture store relocates to Camp Foster

LCPL KEITH R. MEIKLE
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — The Furniture Mart on Camp Lester is getting a new home. Officials said the store will relocate its operation to a new building here and open its doors to customers no later than May 15.

The building that houses the Camp Lester Furniture Mart is more than 30 years old and needed to be updated to provide better service for customers, according to Furniture Mart Store Manager Don Hadley.

"Our building is old and outdated," Hadley said. "The new building will allow us to expand our services and improve our services."

Japanese contractors started work on the new \$10 million facility here in September 1999. It was completed in January 2001, according to LTJG Jason G. Kranz, Japanese Facilities Improvement Program Project Officer, Public Works Office.

The new building has several advantages including a larger showroom, new vendors and a new Item Locator System. These advantages all link together to provide a more efficient service for the customers.

"The new locator system is designed to take the place of manual inventory," Hadley said. "This ensures accurate inventory which will allow us to carry more inventory to better supply the customers."

The extra 3,000 square feet in the new 21,000 square-foot building provides a bigger showroom for a larger selection of furniture. A larger storage room will also increase the amount of inventory we can manage, which should increase sales, according to Hadley.

"We are anticipating increased sales with the new store and our increased inventory and new vendors creating a wider selection for customers," Hadley said.

While the new building will soon be full of furni-

ture, the old building will remain open until the new store is ready for sales. Kadena Air Base's Exchange is expected to use the old building for storage once the inventory is moved to the new store, according to Hadley.

Music follows furniture

LCPL KEITH R. MEIKLE
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — When the Furniture Mart moves here in May, so will the Music School.

Nine instructors currently teach 160 students who are enrolled in the school, which is located on Camp Lester. Music School students receive one-on-one lessons weekly to improve their musical skills.

The school offers a variety of lessons including piano, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, drums, violin, voice and a variety of guitars. However, the school does not provide the instruments, according to Professor Bien Panganiban, Director of Music School, here.

"We have several classes available, but we require the students to supply their own instrument," Panganiban said.

"We accept all levels of musical talent," Panganiban said. "Whether they have played all of their life or are just getting started, there is always room for improvement."

Interested students must complete an application form. For more information call Panganiban 645-8432.

TMO tips for moving season

LCPL JOSH P. VIERELA
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — Marines shipping personal property from Okinawa during the months of May through August can avoid many hassles by following a few helpful hints from the Traffic Management Office.

Knowing how the process works and being familiar with the regulations and allowances can help make relocating to a new duty station easier.

Service members should contact TMO as soon as they receive Permanent Change of Station orders, according to GySgt Lawrence Quirindongo, Operations Chief, Personal Property Shipping Office, Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base.

They should also schedule interviews with TMO as early as possible. These interviews inform and help TMO personnel arrange for the move.

One of the most common mistakes people make is notifying TMO on short notice, according to LCpl Erick Bucio, Counselor, H&S Bn, MCB.

"My job is to counsel service members and set up a shipment date," LCpl Bucio said. "I also have to inform them of their responsibilities and what they can or can't do. Interviews also help ease their tensions."

TMO dates must be scheduled at least seven days after the initial interview to give movers proper notification. Once a pick up date has been established and confirmed, Marines must wait in their residence from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on that date. If the movers attempt to pick up a shipment and the member is not present, the service member will be fined \$60-\$100, according to LCpl Bucio.

As a general rule Tuesdays and Thursdays are des-



LCpls Scott A. Thomson and Dallas R. Owens, Customs and Quality Control Clerks, TMO, inventory gear before it gets shipped out to a Marine's next duty station.

ignated for bases north of Kadena Air Base, and Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays are reserved for Kadena and bases south of Kadena. Families living off base may be scheduled any of these days based on location.

Shipping weight allowances vary according to accompanied or unaccompanied status, rank and tour length on Okinawa.

For example, service members E-4 and below who are on Okinawa for one year are entitled to ship 1,000 pounds, according to GySgt Quirindongo. Service members ranked E-6 who are on accompanied tours are authorized 2,750 pounds.

Items not counted against service members' total weight allowance include professional gear. This is gear used in service members' jobs, such as military gear and books.

Some items not authorized for shipping include pornography, knife blades three inches or longer, medication, firearms, shotguns, and explosives such as pro-

pane tanks and ammunition.

Marines wanting to ship vehicles back to the United States can do so; however, they must meet certain criteria and follow the regulations regarding this process.

Motorcycles may be shipped as part of household goods or as privately owned vehicles. Unaccompanied Marines may ship their vehicles only if they have been on Okinawa at least two years. All vehicles must be converted or must already meet U.S. Department of Transportation and Environmental Protection Agency standards and specifications.

Once service members have set up their shipments, they should document anything of value.

"It is suggested that service members take pictures or video of property being shipped," GySgt Quirindongo said. This will help if Marines have to file claims for broken or lost items.

For more information about TMO regulations call 645-0416.

Marine awarded for community service

LCPL KATHY J. ARNDT
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP KINSER — A Marine stationed here will travel to Washington, D.C. May 9 to receive a special award.

Capt David H. Rosenberg, Jr., Commanding Officer, Materiel Readiness Company, 3d Materiel Readiness Battalion, 3d Force Service Support Group, will be presented the Federal Asian Pacific American Council Meritorious Service Award for contributions toward diversity and equal opportunity for Asian Pacific Americans in the armed services.

The FAPAC, an organization that promotes equal opportunity and cultural diversity for Asian Pacific Americans within the Federal government, will also give the award to one service member in each of the other Armed Forces.

Capt Rosenberg qualified in several different areas to be nominated for the award, including bringing Asian Pacific American civilian and military communities together, promoting community relations, equal opportunity, public service within the Armed Forces and promoting diversified work forces in the military service.

During Capt Rosenberg's tour here, he has participated as a deacon at the Central Baptist Church, an active member in the Filipino American Association of Okinawa and as the secretary of the Veterans 442 Club.

"He is always involved heavily in projects to help the community," said 1stSgt Brett W. Pfortmiller,

Company First Sergeant, MRC.

Capt Rosenberg has also helped organize beach clean ups, nursing home visits and other events that include both the military and local communities with the Fil-Am.

"The Fil-Am is a family oriented organization, so we do things for all the major holidays," Capt Rosenberg said. "The single Marines are also welcome to come to our outreach dinners and get the chance to eat a home-cooked meal."

His involvement in the Veterans 442 Club greatly contributed to the award, according to Capt Rosenberg. When Capt Rosenberg learned about Daniel K. Inouye, Senator of Hawaii and Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, coming to Okinawa to visit in November 2000, he set up and hosted a banquet for him via the Veterans 442 Club.

"His (Senator Inouye) coming and sending a thank you letter in my package was the biggest feather in the cap," Capt Rosenberg said referring to the award.

Capt Rosenberg's community relations are a shadow of the way he commands, according to 1stSgt Pfortmiller. "His abilities as a company commander reflect in his community service, there is nothing but good things to say."

As a company commander, Capt Rosenberg is a leader and provides an example to Marines. He said he ensures that everyone under his command is treated fairly.

"In the command I have done every-



COURTESY PHOTO

Appreciation

Masao Gabe (right), Narcotics Control Chief, Okinawa Narcotics Control Office, presents LtCol Donald J. Anderson, Provost Marshal, with a certificate of appreciation April 27 for generous and outstanding cooperation with the Narcotics Control Office during his 3-year assignment on Okinawa. LtCol Anderson is scheduled to leave Okinawa Saturday for Marine Corps Security Forces Company, Kings Bay, Ga.

thing to help everyone to advance for those Marines who deserve it; race, gender; it doesn't matter," Capt Rosenberg said.

"He is a fair and is willing to go the extra mile for his Marines," 1stSgt Pfortmiller said.

Not only does Capt Rosenberg treat each of his Marines fairly, he also gives them respect.

"I understand that respect is a two-way street," Capt Rosenberg said. "I try to treat my Marines the same way I would like to be treated."

"He is not your average officer. You can approach him with any situation," said LCpl Kevin L. Matthews, Administration Chief, MRC.

Capt Rosenberg's good deeds in the military and in the community are the reasons he has been selected for this award. He is accepting this award and recognition humbly.

"All the things I have done aren't anything special that anyone can't do. God gives us talents and expects us to use them for good and that is what I'm trying to do," Capt Rosenberg said.



LCPL JOSH P. VIERELA

Good cookin'

Sgt William Kesling, Chief Cook, Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, accepts the Mess Hall of the Quarter Award from BGen Willie J. Williams, Commanding General, Marine Corps Base, April 26 on behalf of the MCAS Futenma Mess Hall. GySgt Gary T. Belton, Assistant Mess Hall Manager, attributed the success to the junior Marines saying, "Without them this award would not have been possible."

Traffic signs show courage of youth

Young girl writes commanding general about lack of safety signs around Camp Lester's housing area

LCPL. JOSH P. VIERELA
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP LESTER — Webster's Dictionary defines courage as mental or moral strength to venture, persevere and withstand danger, fear or difficulty.

For Alyssia M. Martinez, an eighth grader from Lester Middle School, courage was the ability to step up and confront problems even if it meant writing to BGen Willie J. Williams, the Marine Corps Base Commanding General.

As a school project, Martinez and her classmates were learning how to change things by writing letters.

Martinez knew of two things that were troubling her neighborhood. One was the park conditions. The other was lack of safety signs warning cars to slow down and watch for children.

"Every time me and my friends go to the park we notice it gets worse and worse," Martinez said. "A lot of other bases have nice parks and I figured we should too."

Although a concern, it was not her main is-

sue. What bothered her most was safety for the children playing around Camp Lester. With no signs indicating children were playing around the Lester housing area, cars would often speed through the streets.

Last summer Martinez observed speeding vehicles almost hit two small children.

"I'm always afraid that one of my neighbor's children will be hit by a speeding vehicle," she said.

Martinez decided to take action. She wrote to BGen Williams during December. Soon after writing the general, she received a response back thanking her for her concerns.

"I figured he was really busy, so I wasn't expecting a response," Martinez said. "When I got his response, I was really excited and showed my parents right away."

The response was of gratitude and thanks, and stated that signs would be put up as soon as possible and the park updated.

"Martinez is a real socially conscious person," said Chief Ismael Martinez, Alyssia's father. "Whenever she sees something that isn't right, she tries to make it right."

Not only were here parents thankful, but so were her neighbors.

"They would come to me and say 'Finally someone said something about it,'" Martinez said.

Children are now safer and parents can rest a little easier knowing that someone had the courage to speak out.

"If you see a problem don't wait," Martinez said. "If you feel it is important voice your opinion. No matter your age, you can make a difference."



Martinez

Camp Kinser's fair encourages safety

LCPL KATHY J. ARNDT
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP KINSER — Service members, their families, and Department of Defense employees came together recently to learn more about safety.

The annual event, known as the Camp Kinser Safety Fair, emphasized vehicle safety and off-duty recreation in a fun and relaxing way.

"Our mission is to meet [safety] requirements in a unique way by bringing the Camp Kinser community together for an insightful day of safety, education and fun," said Cindy McGarvie, Community Services Coordinator, Marine Corps Community Service.

Even though the Safety Fair here concentrated more on vehicle safety and off-duty recreation, the important lesson was safety awareness.

"Regardless of how you choose to conduct your safety event, the most important part of it is content," said Marine safety officials in a recently released administrative message.

The safety fair provided those who attended information on many safety issues. Military policemen were on hand to provide information on drunk driving, and used special goggles that show the effects of alcohol on an impaired driver. Many spectators put on the goggles and tried to walk down a straight line without stumbling.

"The goggles are equivalent to about a 0.25 percent alcohol level," said SSgt Stephen E. Smith, Military Policeman, Provost Marshal's Office here.

Along with PMO, representatives from Tsumani Gear and Marine Corps Community Services Safety Office were on hand to give information and advice on how to stay safe on duty, off duty and during all recreational activities.

"Safety is not just a part-time job, it is a full-time job," said Robbin Johnson, Safety/Occupational Hazard Specialist, MCCS. "Safety starts with all of us, on duty, off duty, on the job, in the home and during recreation."

Together with safety tips, the Safety Fair included health tips and various displays. The American Red Cross, Kinser Medical Clinic and the Wellness Center from Camp Foster provided health information, statistics and displays to help spectators better understand the importance of a healthy lifestyle.

"We are here to bring out awareness on how to stay healthy, and to keep from getting sick or injured," said PO2 Eddie Gamboa, Medical Representative, Kinser Medical Clinic. "Most importantly, we show how to live healthy lifestyles."



LCPL KATHY J. ARNDT

GySgt Izial L. Toles, Safety Officer, 3d MRB, 3d FSSG, tries to walk a straight line while wearing DUI goggles at the Safety Fair here recently.



NJP REPORT

The following are alcohol-related nonjudicial punishments for April 22-28.

• Underage drinking

A private first class with 3d Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, 3d Marine Division was found guilty at a regiment-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: reduction to E-1, forfeiture of \$521 per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

A corporal with Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, was found guilty at a squadron-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: reduction to E-3, forfeiture of \$653 per month for two months and restriction 60 days.

A private first class with Marine Wing Support Squadron-172, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, was found guilty at a squadron-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: reduction to E-1, forfeiture of \$584 per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 45 days.

A private first class with Marine Tactical Air Command Squadron-18, 1st MAW, was found guilty at a squadron-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: reduction to E-1, restriction for 30 days and extra duties for 45 days.

A lance corporal with Marine Air Support Squadron-2, 1st MAW, was found guilty at a squadron-level NJP of underage drinking. Punishment: reduction to E-2, forfeiture of \$450 per month for two months and restriction and extra duties for 30 days.

• Allowing an underage Marine to consume alcohol

A corporal with 3/12, 3d MarDiv, was found guilty at a battalion-level NJP of allowing an underage Marine to consume alcohol. Punishment: reduction to E-3, forfeiture of \$692 per month for two months and restriction 45 days.

CHAPELS

The following lists the times for religious services available at the specified camps or bases. Contact the local chapel to verify religious services start times.

MCAS Futenma Chapel (636-3058)

Roman Catholic

Daily Mass; 11:45a.m.

Sunday Mass; noon

Protestant

Sunday Service; 9 a.m.

Muslim

Futenma Zuhr (Monday-Friday); 12:30 p.m.



Camp Foster Chapel (645-7486/7487)

Roman Catholic

Daily Mass (Monday-Friday); 11:45a.m.

Confessions; 11:00 a.m.

Confessions (Saturday); 4 p.m.

Vigil Mass; 5 p.m.

Sunday Mass; 7 a.m., 10 a.m.

Protestant

Sunday Worship; 8:30 a.m.

Gospel Sunday Service; 11:30 a.m.

Eastern Orthodox Sunday Divine Liturgy; 9:30 a.m.

Jewish

Friday Shabbat; 7 p.m.

Muslim

Friday Prayer; 12:45 p.m.



LCPL JOSH P. VIERELA

Dressing for success

Mary L. Betances, Protocol and Executive Assistant for the Commanding General, Marine Corps Base, uses Alma C. Cruz, Administrative Professional, G-6, to model scarves as Terry A. Hall, Administrative Professional for the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, looks on in a dress for success class April 25 during an Administrative Professional's Day luncheon. The meeting promoted professional excellence by sharing ideas, giving classes and doing team building exercises. "It's good to get together and realize we do important work at the office," said Makiki Cajinaroeleto, Administrative Professional, Okinawa Area Field Office, U.S. Forces Japan.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Road Tax Due

Phase II has begun for service members to pay their annual Japanese Road Tax. Tax collection sites will be available on seven military locations. All taxes must be paid in yen.

Military Police at the tax payment locations will verify a valid Japanese title, military registration and 2001 road tax receipt before the old road tax sticker is replaced.

Phase II tax rates are:

Passenger cars, vans and trucks with category license 44, 400, 51-59, 77, 78, 500, and 501 with engine displacements between 660cc and 2,000cc pay ¥7,500.

Passenger cars with license 33 and 300 with engine displacements between 2,000cc and 4,500cc pay ¥19,000 and cars in excess of 4,500cc pay ¥22,000.

Special use vehicles with category license 11, 100, 88, and 800 pay ¥32,000

Payment location dates and times:

May 7, 11

Keystone Theater; 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

May 14-15

Kinser Theater; 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

May 16-18, 21-25

Foster Field House; 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

May 29

Hansen Theater; 9:30 a.m. to noon, 1-3:30 p.m.

May 30-31

Torii Station Gym; 9:30 a.m. to noon, 1-3:30 p.m.

Question concerning the tax collection may be directed to the Joint Forces Vehicle Registration Office at 645-7481/3963.

Charity Golf Tournament

The Camp Foster and Camp Lester Association is hosting a charity golf tournament May 9 at Awase Golf Course.

The tournament is a four-man scramble game format with a shotgun start at noon. Players must pick their own four-man teams.

The tournament costs \$30 and includes tournament entry, greens fees, and cart rental. No-shows are not refundable. Non-SOFA personnel pay normal green fees plus a \$10 tournament entry fee.

For more information, sign-up and to purchase entry fee tickets early call 645-3813/5389.

Space Available Check-in

The 730 Air Mobility Squadron Air Passenger Terminal, Yokota Air Base, Japan, will implement a new Space Available Check-in/Roll call procedure May 1. The new procedure is designed to help Space Available travelers waiting for Space Available flights by lessening the time travelers have to wait in terminals for news on seat availability and the chances of securing an available seat.

All Air Mobility Command travelers are requested to check-in at the Passenger Service Center within 24 hours of desired travel. Yokota's passenger terminal will display a listing of all travelers checked in 30 minutes prior to actual roll call for any particular flight. This displayed listing will allow travelers to see their standing for a particular flight and chances for potential selection for that flight.

This procedure is expected to be implemented at all AMC Pacific terminals before the end of this summer.

For more information, contact the 730 Air Mobility Squadron's passenger terminal at DSN 225-4621.

Marine Corps University

The Marine Corps University is now taking early enrollments for 2001-2002 academic year which is scheduled to begin in October.

For more information call Mr. Hopkins or Ms. Eisenmann at 645-2230.

To submit a brief ...

Send an e-mail to editor@mcbbutler.usmc.mil or fax your request to 645-3803. The Okinawa Marine accepts briefs for non-profit organizations and groups only and they are run on a space-available and time-priority basis. Deadline for submitting briefs is noon every Friday and the Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit all submitted material to fit space.

Old Corps, new Corps

As Marine Corps changes, accountability presents new challenges



SGTMAJ STEPHEN H. MELLINGER
MARINE FORCES PACIFIC SERGEANT MAJOR

A lot has changed since my joining this gun club 29 years ago. Going back to my PFC days, I remember our choices for breakfast at the chow hall. Basically, it was cold, green "B" RAT scrambled eggs or cold, green "B" RAT scrambled eggs. There were unconfirmed reports that Marines offered left over chow to farmers for their hogs, but it didn't work. The hogs refused to eat it. However, today's chow hall food (compared to what it used to be) is outstanding.

I know you're thinking, "Here comes the 'Old Corps' speech," but it's not. Many changes that we've seen have been for the betterment of our Marines and our Corps.

I'm happy for change in better uniforms, equipment, chow, weapons and technology. But there are some evolutions from the old Corps

ways, such as daily formations and open squad bays for sergeants and below, that really concern me. I wish we could keep both as requirements today.

Now before you sergeants and below start shoving pins into little SgtMaj Mellinger dolls, let me explain.

I can recall in the '70's us having three formations a day. The 0700 and 1300 formations ensured we were present and that our uniforms, haircuts, etc., were good to go. The 1700 one was to forecast the next day's mission, give any needed attitude adjustments and to sound liberty

call. In addition to those three formations, we formed up and marched to our three meals each day. Actually, we formed up and marched even when there were only a handful of us going somewhere. And come to think of it, we even had to form up twice a month to receive our pay.

A platoon's privates through sergeants lived in the same open squad bay (like basic training) barracks. Noncommissioned Officers lived on one end separated from the lance corporals and below only by curtains and wall lockers. When a new Marine reported aboard, the bunk beds were simply slid closer

together to make room.

"And my point is," you ask? Those old ways of doing things (as a unit) served to bond us closer together. It taught Marines to be responsible for fellow Marines, especially the sergeants and corporals in charge of those formations and barracks.

Being together as much as we were back then caused us to take greater interest in one another both personally and professionally. You could say it helped to solidify our units. Accountability up and down the chain of command was commonplace.

I'm afraid that with some changes from the old Corps, we now suffer from too much individualism. Less required formations means less interaction between NCOs and junior Marines. With private/semi-private living spaces comes isolation of Marines from their fellow unit members. How does accountability take place in this type environment? I don't believe it does to the level it needs to be.

A Marine shows up for work, puts in the day and no one in the unit has a clue about him or her after that until the next morning.

Change can be good for our Corps in certain areas, but not when it threatens the cohesiveness and team spirit of a Marine unit. If we as Marines of today make it a point to be accountable and responsible for the welfare of our Marines then I'll be happy that the most important things from the old Corps have remained.

"I'm afraid that with some changes from the old Corps, we now suffer from too much individualism. Less required formations means less interaction between NCOs and junior Marines."

What Would You Do?

The following examination of leadership issues is not intended to present right or wrong answers. The goal is to provide a forum to encourage leadership discussions of challenging issues. Chaplain responses are designed to provide moral and ethical guidance. Questions, comments or ideas for a future scenario may be submitted to: editor@mcbbutler.usmc.mil

Avoiding risks

You're a lance corporal assigned here on the Unit Deployment Program. Another lance corporal in the company invites you to go out with him this Friday to a party with some of his Japanese friends. He is known to be one of the more squared away Marines in the unit.

Friday night you get to the party out in town. The house is large and everyone is wandering through the house drinking and talking. There are a lot of people there and you are having a good time. You walk into another room and see several people, some are Japanese and some are American, smoking. You notice a strange smell that you suspect is marijuana.

You immediately go and find your buddy. You tell him about what happened. He tells you not to worry about it. They are all good people. If it bothers you just don't go into that room. He then wanders into another room and continues partying. What do you do?

What the Marines said

Lance corporal with MCB: "I would stay at the party, but I would be sure to stay clear of the room or stay outside. If my buddy wanted to stay at the party I would wait for him because I couldn't get back on base without him.

As long as we didn't smoke any of it we should be fine. I might want to consider who or what I would be around if I decided to go to another party."

Lance corporal with 1st MAW: "I would tell my friend that drugs are punished harshly out here and that I was leaving."

Lance corporal with 3rd FSSG: "It's their house, and I'm a guest. I just wouldn't use the drugs and keep my friends away from temptation."

Lance corporal with 3d MarDiv: "If the party was real fun I would stay there but keep away from the room with the marijuana in it. I would keep an eye on my fellow Marine to keep him away from trouble."

What the Chaplain said

This is a very realistic scenario, which has gotten all too many Marines and Sailors into very hot water. First of all, that house is a tinderbox for the Marines. They should exit immediately, do not stop at GO, do not collect \$200! Drugs are truly a big curse in so many people's lives and for the families they have destroyed. These Marines would be wise to stay as far as away as possible from anyone who has anything do with them.

In addition, there is a lot of alcohol at the party. People who would never dream of using drugs when they're sober have their defenses down when they're drunk and do things which are completely out of character.

When I was a chaplain aboard a carrier out of Norfolk, it was normal practice for a chaplain to be present at every Captain's Mast. I can't tell you how many times during that tour a Sailor would pop positive on a urinalysis and go before the old man, because he in fact used drugs at a party and was so "out of it" he couldn't remember what wrong he had done. Imagine messing up your life and not even remembering the incident.

Finally, there are a lot of great people they can hang out with, both American and Okinawan. They should cultivate a more stable group of friends. As the old saying goes: you are whom you hang out with.

- Navy CDR Mitch Schranz, Chaplain, MCAS Futenma



The Okinawa Marine is published by Marine Corps Community Services under exclusive written contract with Marine Corps Base, Camp S.D. Butler, Okinawa, Japan. This commercial enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the military service. Contents of the Okinawa Marine are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the United States Government, DoD, or the United States Marine Corps. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts and supplements, does not constitute endorsement

by DoD or MCCS of the services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use, or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. Editorial content is prepared by the Public Affairs Office, H&S BN MCB PAO, Unit 35002, FPO AP 96373-5002. All photos, unless otherwise indicated are "official USMC photos."

Northern Office
Camp Hansen
623-4054

Central Office
Camp Foster
645-7423

Southern Office
Camp Kinser
637-2276

Commanding General BGen Willie J. Williams
Public Affairs Officer LtCol Kurt S. Owerhohle
Press Officer Capt Jeffrey S. Pool
Press Chief GySgt Matthew J. Hevezi
Editor Sgt Nathaniel T. Garcia
Print and slide film developed by CVIC, MCB

The address for the Okinawa Marine Homepage is:
<http://okinawa.usmc.mil>

Individual Movement

Marines tackle course in Korea

Story and photos by Cpl Matthew E. Habib

CAMP MU JUK, Korea — The Marines' mission was easier to understand than it was to accomplish — secretly infiltrate the enemy's mountain-top compound, retrieve important intelligence documents and escape.

The enemy wasn't taking any chances. The area around their compound was heavily guarded.

The Marines were from 3d Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, Marine Air Ground Task Force-17, and faced the challenge recently during Korean Incremental Training Program at the Republic of Korea Marine Corps' Individual Movement Course. The course, which is nearly 500-meters long, offered the Marines a chance to prove their skills of patrolling, avoiding traps and overcoming a spectrum of defensive obstacles.

On patrol, using a large blade of grass, the lead Marine fanned the area to his front from foot to head level. By using this technique, he was able to detect any trip wires. Some traps were found in obvious places, but many were well hidden.

The Marines encountered a tunnel system protected by booby-trapped razor wire. The tunnels filled with tear gas as the Marines attempted to pass the obstacle. Their gas masks quickly became a valued piece of equipment as they crawled through the maze, dragging their gear and carefully searching for trip wires.

"The obstacle was irritating and uncomfortable," said LCpl Kristopher L. Casaces, Rifleman, Company K, 3d Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment. "It was hard looking for traps and keeping your mind focused on what you were doing. Between the gas mask fogging up and just being physically tired, it was a challenge staying alert."

The Marines quickly formed a defensive position to cover the squad as they exited the tunnels.

After negotiating walls and open ditches, the Marines made it to the compound. They rushed the building containing the documents. They encountered enemy resistance, but still completed the mission.

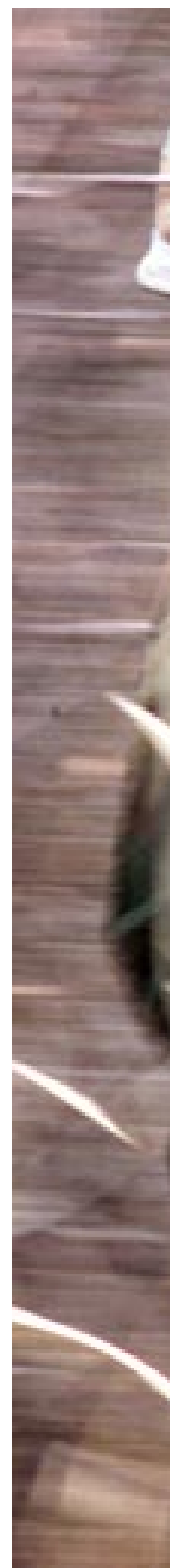
"The course and terrain were physically challenging to the Marines, and the obstacles challenged them mentally," said Sgt Sid R. Gonzalez, Assault Section Leader, Co K, 3/8. "That's why courses like these, posing these type of situations, are good training for the younger Marines and squad leaders. They are forced to make key decisions while they are sweating and out of breath."

"Overall, this was an excellent course that offered some different aspects than your typical U.S. Marine course," said Sgt J. D. Logan, Section Leader, Co I, 3/8. "This course offered our Marines the chance to practice in-depth patrolling, as opposed to just rushing through. Along with all the traps set and different conditions, this course was constantly challenging the Marines. They were able to work together and obtained their goals in the end."



The Marines quickly broke into the enemy's headquarters and, after a quick sweep of the area to make sure there were no hostiles, were able to retrieve the documents.

The Co I Marines keep watch as the final members of the squads exit tunnels filled with tear gas and surrounded by barbed wire. This was just one of the many obstacles the Marines faced during the Individual Movement Course.



LCpl Thomas S. S.



The gas mask quickly became a valuable obstacle is by going



Surbaugh, Radio Operator, Co I, makes a hasty exit out of a mountain-top compound during the Individual Movement Course.



quickly becomes the Marines' best friend when the only way to get through the tunnel is by crawling through a tunnel filled with tear gas.



As they reach one of the last obstacles remaining between them and the enemy's headquarters, LCpl Johnny M. Ramirez, Rifleman, and Sgt Brian S. Marshall, Squad Leader, Co I, 3/8, search for traps before trying to cross the wire obstacle.



LCpls Andrew Hildebrand and Mary Gunther of the 31st MEU (SOC) secure an M-198 155mm Howitzer to the deck of the *USS Essex* in preparation for Exercise Tandem Thrust 01.

All Aboard:

Embark section gets 31st MEU ready to go for Tandem Thrust

SSGT MICHAEL A. TURNER
31ST MEU PUBLIC AFFAIRS CHIEF

WHITE BEACH — An enormous amount of work and effort went into embarking the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) and all of its personnel and equipment in preparation for Exercise Tandem Thrust 01.

Tandem Thrust is a U.S. and Australian combined and joint command post and field training exercise that includes air, land, maritime and special operations forces. The bi-annual exercise is conducted throughout Australia.

The responsibilities of getting the MEU ready for deployment and fully loaded onto the *USS Essex*, *USS Juneau*, and *USS Germantown* rested solely on the shoulders of the MEU embark section.

The MEU embark section is comprised of only three Marines: an embark officer, chief and clerk.

According to Capt Jesse McRae, MEU Embark Officer, the mission of the MEU embark section is to provide expertise to the MEU commander on all matters concerning the strategic movement of MEU forces during contingencies, training and the Unit Deployment Program.

The MEU embark section effectively accomplishes this mission by preparing strategic airlift requests and amphibious load plans, coordinating the use of Maritime Prepositioning Force assets, managing the budget in support of strategic mobility, and coordinating the transportation of equipment and personnel to aerial and surface ports of embarkation.

Capt McRae said the embark section is responsible for getting all equipment and personnel on

the ships in such a way as to support the MEU commander's concept of operations ashore.

The MEU commander has chosen a course of action for Tandem Thrust. Based on his concept of operations, the MEU embark section compiles all equipment to be embarked into a database known as the Marine Air Ground Task Force Deployment Support System II.

Once the data is compiled from all the MEU's Major Subordinate Elements, to include attached Navy personnel and equipment, it is placed on computerized diagrams of the ships in a program called Computer Aided Embarkation Management System. These load plans identify the location of all the equipment on each ship, as well as provide reports on the contents of each vehicle.

"As the embark section, we prepare the MEU to deploy at a moment's notice," said Sgt. Michael J. McGrath, MEU Embark Clerk. "There are many reports and messages that must be submitted to the Amphibious Ready Group prior to our planning for embark. The ships must know what we intend on doing, just as we have to know what they are doing."

The next phase, after the load plans are finalized, is the actual embarkation at White Beach.

Capt McRae said the embarkation planning process began in March while the MEU was still deployed for Special Operations Capable Exercise 01.

"The most challenging part of embarkation is having to handle multiple tasks simultaneously," McRae said. "The embark officer can not afford to get something wrong or miss anything. If this happens, the unit does not deploy on time."

For one deployment, a Marine Corps embark sec-



Marines of 31st MEU (SOC) gather in the aircraft hanger of the *USS Essex* prior to the ship getting underway for Exercise Tandem Thrust which takes place in Australia.

tion may have to deploy personnel on civilian and military aircraft, ships and several different forms of vehicular transportation, all at the same time.

"This is going on constantly with the 31st MEU," Capt McRae said.

The MEU embarkation process here is unlike any other in the Marine Corps. The unit's high operational tempo requires the embark section to load and unload the ships no less than four times within a five-month window. Nonetheless, the job remains quite rewarding.

According to Sgt McGrath, it feels good to know he played a key role in loading the MEU's personnel and equipment safely, effectively and expeditiously.

"When we embark, it's not training. It is almost exactly what we would do for a real-world operation. So, every time we go out, we get that much more experience to make the next time that much better," Sgt McGrath said.

"You learn a lot being an embark officer in the MEU. This deployment has brought different challenges in dealing with the Australian inspecting process," he added. "It feels good knowing you helped get the 31st MEU ready to go."



Mark R. Pollard, a Trooper in the Australian Light Horse Regiment, takes a rest from the festivities at the ANZAC Day parade in Rockhampton, Australia.



Members of the U.S. Marine Corps honor guard and Navy seabees participate in the ANZAC parade.

AIR FORCE SSGT JEREMY LOCK



Emily Sorence, 5, a Rockhampton native, comes out to watch the Australia/New Zealand Army Corps parade commemoration in Rockhampton, Australia, April 25. ANZAC Day honors the brave men and women of Australia and New Zealand who have defended freedom in conflicts around the world.

AIR FORCE SSGT WAYNE CLARK

Tandem Thrust troops march into ANZAC Day

SSGT NATHAN L. HANKS
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

ROCKHAMPTON, Australia — U.S. service members participated in the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps Day parade commemoration here April 25.

The holiday began as a remembrance of the service and sacrifice of Australian and New Zealand Army Corps personnel and later expanded to encompass all veterans.

"ANZAC Day is like America's Memorial Day," said CW02 Steve Grant, Garrison Sergeant Major, Rockhampton Army Base, Queensland, Australia. "ANZAC Day is set aside to honor and remember the service members who fought side by side in conflicts such as World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and peacekeeping operations, most recently Operation Stabilise in East Timor."

During WWI, Russia appealed for help to her allies, Great Britain and France, to divert the constant attacks from Turkish forces. On April 25, 1915, combined Australian and New Zealand Forces, ANZACs, stormed the beaches of Gallipoli in Turkey in a daring effort to knock Turkey out of the war.

This was the first and only large-scale amphibious assault of the war. By taking Turkey out of the war, ANZACs hoped it would open a second front and end the stalemate that developed on battlefields in Belgium and France.

In spite of the incredible bravery and determination of the ANZACs, after eight months of constant fighting the allied forces were withdrawn. The legendary courage of the ANZACs was established. More than 10,000 were killed and almost 25,000 wounded.

At the ANZAC Day celebration, Marines from 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Okinawa and Iwakuni, Japan, and Navy Seabees from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion-1, Gulfport, Miss., marched alongside Australian forces during the commemoration ceremonies.

"ANZAC Day offers American personnel in Australia the opportunity to salute and thank Australian military personnel for all they have done and still do in the service of freedom," said CDR Susan Gaston, Deputy Camp Commandant, Exercise Tandem Thrust, Rockhampton Army Base, Queensland, Australia.

"It is a honor to be here and march in the parade," said Cpl Joseph T. Lewis, Aviation Ordnance Technician, Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (All Weather)-533, Beaufort, S.C., who is currently on the Unit Deployment Program to Iwakuni, Japan. "I am proud to be a part of the ceremony remembering those who have died for the cause of freedom."

U.S. service members are currently in Australia participating in Exercise Tandem Thrust 01 and training alongside their counterparts from the Australian Defense Force's Maritime, Land and Air Command.



Cathy L. Daigle, Assistant Tiger Leader, Pack 110, Camp Courtney, chooses two cars for the next race. Each car must weigh no more than 5 ounces and is built by hand.



Japanese Cub Scouts wait to see the next race at the International Pinewood Derby.



GySgt Mike R. Sink, First Sergeant, Landing Support Co, 3d TSB, 3d FSSG, sends two cars racing toward the finish line of the American and Japanese Cub Scouts' International Pinewood Derby.

Scouts rev pinewood engines

STORY AND PHOTOS BY LCPL KENNETH L. HINSON
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — The Great Okinawan District Cub Scouts held its annual International Pinewood Derby Championship at the Foster Field House here recently.

American and Japanese Cub Scouts and family members participated in this year's event, which marks the second year the Japanese Cub Scouts have raced.

Scouts competed against each other after being divided into groups according to the grade they were in. Trophies were awarded for 1st, 2d and 3d place as well as Best of Show and Best of Effort. More than 200 American and Japanese Scouts competed in this year's event.

Nolan Cheatham won 1st place in the Tigers/Beavers category, and Zack Meyer won the Wolves/Rabbits category. Travis Moore captured the Bears/Deer category, while Justin Dalton took home top honors for the Webelos/Bears category.

"The purpose of the Pinewood Derby is to help the Cub Scout build a team relationship with their parent or helper and experience the sense of accomplishment," said Maj Michael J. Bissonnette, G-6 Deputy, 3d Marine Division. "Events like this one help the scouts learn to be competitive and at the same time learn good sportsmanship."

Races began at 9 a.m. and continued until late in

the afternoon. Before the races began, judges made sure all the cars were within regulation so competitors had an equal chance to win. The most important regulation builders had to follow was to make sure the cars weighed no more than 5 ounces.

An Open Invitational Race was also held for scouts who didn't win and wanted to race again. A Family Race was the final event of the day in which family members who had brought cars were given a chance to compete.

The Pinewood Derby is one of the most popular events in Cub Scouting because of the history and many people who participate in the event.

The history of the Pinewood Derby dates back to May 15, 1953, when Cub Scouts from Pack 280 participated in the first running of the event. It was held at the Manhattan Beach Clubhouse and the following year it was publicized in an issue of Boys' Life magazine.

Since then, an estimated 40 million fathers and sons have participated in races.

"The kids have had a real good time today learning to compete against fellow friends and family members," said GySgt Mike R. Sink, First Sergeant, Landing Support Company, 3d Transportation Support Battalion, 3d Force Service Support Group. "It's good to see them grow up and show off what they have learned from the Cub Scouts."

Rules of the derby are simple. Every scout starts out with the same kit to build and prepare his car.



Two cars cross the finish line for a photo finish at the International Pinewood Derby held at the Foster Field House.

Kits include a block of wood, four nails and four wheels. Then, based on the rules, the scout shapes and paints his block of wood into a form to race down the track.

The track is made of wood with a starting line, which sits 5 feet high, and slopes down to the floor. The approximate length of the track is 16 feet with two judges standing at the end to ensure a fair finish.

Maj Bissonnette said the time and effort everyone spent preparing this year's event was worth it and helped make it a success. "There's nothing like seeing children having fun and learning at the same time."



James M. Maldonado, started playing volleyball in the '70s to get out of cleaning fire trucks. He continues playing and coaching to promote the sport of volleyball among service members on Okinawa.

Volleyball resurrection

STORY AND PHOTOS BY LCPL JOSH P. VIERELA
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CAMP FOSTER — Many get into the sport of volleyball as a fun way to relax. But for James M. Maldonado he began playing to get out of cleaning fire trucks.

The Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff, Base Safety, started his military and volleyball career as a young airman stationed on Laughlin Air Force Base, Del Rio, Texas.

"I was a fireman, and in my shop you had two choices when it came to free time after lunch—clean the trucks or play volleyball," Maldonado said, who retired from the Air Force in 1997.

The more he played volleyball, the more he grew to love the sport. After a year of playing with his unit and developing his skills, he soon felt confident enough to try out for the base team.

"I tried out and made the team," he said. "Not surprisingly most of the members on the team were from the fire department because we played everyday."

Excelling at the sport, he continued to make base teams on his next four assignments, which included Bitburg Air Base, Germany; Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.; Osan AB, Korea; and Kadena AB, Okinawa.

It was in 1990, when he was stationed on Okinawa, that Maldonado started noticing changes in the game.

From 1977-1990 the sport had changed drastically. Some of the things that had changed were the level of skill and why people play the game, according to Maldonado.

"Players and strategies became more aggressive," Maldonado said. "Players became more competitive."

An example of this would be players going from

the conventional underhand serve to the more aggressive jump serve, according to Maldonado.

At the same time interest in indoor volleyball had dropped due to the introduction of beach volleyball and players not wanting to participate, according to Maldonado.

"Back when I started, players had a real passion for the sport," Maldonado said. "Now it seems most people need an incentive to play, which is probably why there isn't a big turn out for volleyball tournaments on Okinawa."

Despite the lack of interest among Americans, the Okinawans, whose teams haven't been seriously challenged since the early 1990's, are very good and show a lot of interest in the sport, according to Maldonado.

"I would like to see a lot more Americans playing," he said. "This would cause more tournaments to be held as well as make us more competitive with our Okinawan counterparts."

Ways Maldonado suggested to get people involved in volleyball again include recruiting beginners, offering free player clinics and hosting exhibition games with high-level players.

"It is important to bring back the sport because the competitiveness of volleyball offers a way for Marines to positively focus their energy," Maldonado said.

Even now as Maldonado has shifted his attention from player to coach and referee, he still remains an active force in the game. Playing beach volleyball

now, Maldonado and his 19-year-old partner won four tournaments last year on Okinawa.

"I'm leaning more toward the beach volleyball sector of the sport. It's more of a challenge for me," he said. "However, my true passion is coaching."

"I've known him for about eight or nine years now," said Steve Rowland, Athletic Program Manager, Marine Corps Community Services.

"I've officiated with him and seen him working with all aspects of volleyball. His knowledge of volleyball is probably one of the tops in the East. He is a great teacher and player, able to do it all on either hard court, grass or sand."

"I'd like to keep the sport alive, and we can do it right here on Okinawa. The goal is to get Marines motivated to take back the sport."

- James M. Maldonado

Trying to revive an interest in the sport is harder than playing, according to Maldonado, who is currently the Volleyball Commissioner for the Far East Officials Association here.

"The basic sport has gone through some changes over the years to help attract new players," Maldonado said. "One of the most visible changes is that of rally scoring, where anyone can score points no matter who is serving."

For the time being Maldonado plans to stay in Okinawa and try to bring alive the once-dominant American game.

Even with his two decades of volleyball experience, he still needs some help to bring back volleyball to its former grandeur.

"I'd like to keep the sport alive, and we can do it right here on Okinawa," said Maldonado. "The goal is to get Marines motivated to take back the sport."



A view of the dragon statue that was constructed inside the Dragon Palace along with an arcade and shopping area.



Arcade games are one of the many attractions that lure visitors to the American Village.



Sayuri Uehara, Siori Tomuma, Chika Nakada and Haruka Miyagi enjoy an exciting game of 3-puck play air hockey at the Dragon Palace in Chatan Town.



The American Village in Chatan Town lights up at night accenting the black sky with vibrant neon colors from the shops and the ferris wheel.

American Village

Mixing American lifestyle with Okinawan cultures

LCPL JOSH P. VIERELA
COMBAT CORRESPONDENT

CHATAN TOWN — A casual walk through this seaside tourist area reveals shopping, restaurants and skateboarding children complemented with a steady ocean breeze.

The American Village hosts many restaurants and stores located across Highway 58 from Camp Lester. The many attractions include Jusco Mall, Seaside Square, Dragon Palace and Club Sega.

A market-style grocery is located inside of the multi-leveled Jusco Mall. The market features fresh fruits, vegetables, meat and just about anything else one would want in a supermarket.

Designed to depict what Okinawans picture American life to be, Jusco, along with its numerous stores, has a movie theater and arcade games.

Dragon Palace is a two-story building with shops on one level and arcade games on the other. It is a popular hangout for local Okinawan children.

"We enjoy spending time after school here playing the games," said Haruka Miyagi, 12.

The arcade features more than just video games. It has interactive games such as ping-pong, pool bowling, basketball games, soccer shoot-outs, air hockey and a batting cage.

Club Sega also has a large selection of video games, such as high-graphic video games and live interactive games that attract both children and adults.

"We get approximately 1,000 people here a week," said Hidefomi Kamo, manager, Club Sega.

One of the Club's big attractions is a virtual racetrack called Star Horse. In this virtual horse racing game, players win tokens and then trade them in for prizes, according to Kamo.

Above Club Sega is the 36-lane, Sea Side Bowl. The bowling alley has features such as an instant replay on monitors and subtitled movies. Open seven days a week, the bowling alley charges ¥500 per game and ¥300 for shoes.

The alley is located across from McDonald's and is open from 11 a.m. to 1 a.m. on weekdays and 11 a.m. to 3 a.m. on weekends.

American Village has several restaurants such as Quiche and a Thai restaurant. It has several cafés, bars and eateries that usually feature American-style food.

Aside from shopping, playing arcade games and eating, visitors can also ride the ferris wheel. This slow moving wheel, with 32 passenger boxes, gives riders an exciting view of the Chatan area, East China Sea and the Dragon's baseball stadium for ¥600.

"There is a lot to do off base, especially on Sundays when most of the places on base are closed," said SrA Justin D. Iussig, secure communication maintenance, 18th Communication Squadron, Kadena Air Base. "The Jusco area in Chatan is fairly inexpensive and you can find a larger variety of things to buy than you can on base."



AUTOMOBILES/MOTORCYCLES

1991 Toyota Camry — JCI Mar 02, \$2,500. 636-3966
1991 Toyota Vista — JCI Aug 02, \$2,200 OBO. Doug, 646-4176.
1993 Ford Spectron — JCI Jul 02, \$3,500. **1989 Honda Accord** — JCI Nov 01. Buy both get discount. 622-5178.
1987 Toyota Master Ace — JCI Sep 02, \$2,000 OBO. 646-5964.
1989 Honda Prelude — JCI Apr 02, \$1,500 OBO. 636-2360.
1990 Honda Integra — JCI Apr 03, \$2,700 OBO. 637-5267.
Mazda Familia — JCI Apr 02, \$1,500 OBO. 625-2954.
1989 Toyota Van — JCI Aug 02, \$2,500 OBO. 646-5835.
1988 Honda CRX — JCI Oct 01, \$1,000. 623-5757.
1988 Toyota Van — JCI Aug 01, \$1,200 OBO. Jesse, 645-5396.
1990 Honda CRX — JCI Mar 02, \$2,100 OBO. 622-8563.
1991 Honda Integra — JCI Oct 02, \$1,500. 646-3735.
1989 Nissan Skyline — JCI Sep 02, \$2,000. **1989 Honda Civic** — JCI Oct 02, \$2,000. **1991 Kawasaki KX-250** — \$900. 646-3434.
1991 Isuzu Gemini — JCI Mar 03, \$2,000. 645-3564.
1988 Mercedes 190E — JCI Nov 01, \$2,900. **1986 Honda Shadow 500cc** — JCI Oct 01, \$1,700. Wayne or Ginny, 646-8253.
1992 Toyota Ceres — JCI Sep 01, \$2,000 OBO. 622-5154.
1990 Toyota Lite Ace — JCI May 03, \$2,750 OBO. 622-5141.
1990 Honda Integra — JCI Apr 03, \$2,700 OBO. 637-5267.
1989 Toyota Vista — JCI May 02, \$1,200. **1987 Nissan Largo** — JCI Aug 02, \$2,000. Russ Becker, 622-8651.
1988 Mitsubishi Pajero — JCI Apr 02, \$1,800. 633-8198.
1991 Mitsubishi Galant — JCI Aug 02, \$1,600 OBO. 622-9952.
1987 Toyota Town Ace — JCI Aug 02, \$2,000 OBO. 636-3202.
1992 Toyota Supra — JCI May 03, \$2,700 OBO. 645-7572.

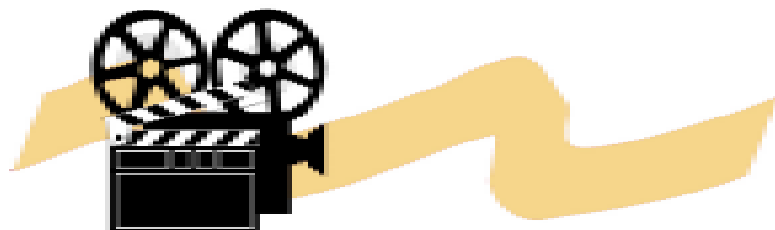


MISCELLANEOUS

Fence — 100 foot fence with poles and gate, \$700. 636-3966.
Grill — Gas grill, 1-year-old, \$50 OBO. Doug/Marilou, 646-4176.
Misc. — Boys 2 piece suits size 2-4 various colors and styles, \$10; girls dresses size 7-10, \$5-\$10; (2) twin size comforters, \$25 each; girls shoes or boots, \$5-\$10. 633-0753.
Misc. — Beanie babies; VHS movies, \$5-\$10 each; 27" TV and VCR, \$200 for both. 646-5848.
Misc. — Fisher Price monitors, \$15; Jenny Lind Oak Crib, \$75; Graco Highchair, \$35; stroller, \$25; microwave cart, \$35. NTT MN 128 ISDN adapter, \$125; suzy's zoo baby bedding, \$15; University of Maryland Sociology book, \$60. 632-3577.
Misc. — L-shaped sofa and seven throw pillows, \$400 OBO; Chaise, \$425; green leather recliner, \$350. 933-8672.
Misc. — Palm Pilot Vx, \$295. Robert, 888-1929.
Misc. — Wildlife encyclopedia set, \$50; utility cart, \$10; bookcase, \$25; movie shelf, \$30; toy chest, \$25; large kennel, \$20; mini-stereo system w/speakers, \$50. 646-5964.
Misc. — Dual burner hot plate, \$10; variable heat frying pan, \$10; (4) non stick pans, \$10; electric heater, \$5. 636-4615.
Misc. — Penn Senator 6/0, \$160; Ladies extra small BC, \$70; Murray 5hp mower w/bagger, \$60. 646-5323.
Dog — Black Labrador, female, \$500. 090-9580-9513.

Ads appearing in the Okinawa Marine do so as a free service to active duty military, their dependents and DoD employees. Ads are restricted to personal property or service of incidental exchange. Ads run on a space-available basis and must be resubmitted each week. The deadline for ads is noon, Fridays, space permitting. The Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit ads to fit available space. Please include your name and the phone number you wish published. The Okinawa Marine makes every effort to ensure accuracy, but assumes no responsibility for services offered in ads. Submit ads by faxing to 645-3803, Mon.-Fri., or send an e-mail to editor@mcbbutler.usmc.mil

Coming to a theater near you ...



Feature programs and start times are subject to change without notice. **Call theaters in advance to confirm showtimes.** Second evening movies will vary when the program runs longer than 120 minutes.

Schwab

(625-2333)

Fri Vertical Limit (PG13); 7:00
Sat The Gift (PG13); 6:00, 9:00
Sun The Wedding Planner (PG13); 3:00, 6:00
Mon Crocodile Dundee in Los Angeles (PG); 7:00
Tue Crocodile Dundee in Los Angeles (PG); 7:00
Wed Closed
Thu Sweet November (PG13); 7:00



Check Kinser, Keystone, Butler and Hansen Theaters for show times.

Hansen

(623-4564)

Fri Double Take (PG13); 6:00
Fri Snatch (R); 9:00
Sat Dracula 2000 (R); 6:00
Sat The Wedding Planner (PG13); 9:00
Sun Saving Silverman (PG13); 2:00, 5:30
Mon Sweet November (PG13); 7:00
Tue Sweet November (PG13); 7:00
Wed Monkeybone (PG13); 7:00
Thu Monkeybone (PG13); 7:00

Courtney

(622-9616)

Fri Crocodile Dundee in Los Angeles (PG); 7:00
Sat The Gift (R); 7:00
Sun The Wedding Planner (PG13); 7:00
Mon Closed
Tue Closed
Wed Pokemon 3 (G); 7:00
Wed Vertical Limit (PG13); 7:00
Thu Closed

Keystone

(634-1869)

Fri The Wedding Planner (PG13); 6:30
Fri Someone Like You (PG13); 9:30
Sat Crocodile Dundee in Los Angeles (PG13); 1:00, 5:30
Sat Monkeybone (PG13); 9:30



Check Kinser, Courtney, Butler, Keystone and Schwab Theaters for show times.

Sun Crocodile Dundee in Los Angeles (PG13); 2:00, 5:30
Sun Sweet November (PG13); 8:30
Mon Save the Last Dance (PG13); 7:00
Tue Monkeybone (PG13); 7:00
Wed Saving Silverman (PG13); 7:00
Thu Saving Silverman (PG13); 7:00

Butler

(645-3465)

Fri Along Came a Spider (R); 7:00, 10:00
Sat Monkeybone (PG13); 1:00, 4:00
Sat Along Came a Spider (R); 7:00, 10:00
Sun Monkeybone (PG13); 1:00, 4:00
Sun Along Came a Spider (R); 7:00
Mon Saving Silverman (PG13); 7:00
Tue Saving Silverman (PG13); 7:00
Wed Sweet November (PG13); 7:00
Thu Crocodile Dundee in Los Angeles (PG); 7:00

Futenma

(636-3890)

Fri Valentine (R); 7:30
Sat The Gift (R); 6:00
Sun The Wedding Planner (PG13); 6:00
Mon Pokemon 3 (G); 7:30
Tue Closed
Wed Along Came a Spider (R); 7:30
Thu Closed

Kinser

(637-2177)

Fri The Wedding Planner (PG13); 7:00
Sat Saving Silverman (PG13); 3:00
Sat Monkeybone (PG13); 7:00, 11:30
Sun Sweet November (PG13); 7:00
Mon Closed
Tue Saving Silverman (PG13); 7:00
Wed Crocodile Dundee in Los Angeles (PG); 7:00
Thu Sweet November (PG13); 7:00